

Neurology

# Unsteady gait

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Answers on p e8

An 11 year old boy presented with progressive unsteadiness of walking, dysarthria, and recurrent respiratory tract infections of eight years' duration. He was born of full term normal delivery to consanguineous parents. There was no family history of ataxia. Neurologically, he had truncal and gait ataxia, dysarthria, gaze evoked nystagmus, and abnormal ocular saccades (rapid eye movements) and smooth pursuit (tracking eye movement).

He had no sensory impairment. Deep tendon reflexes were normal. When asked to look to either side (gaze shifts), he would initially turn his head towards the target with the eyes moving in the direction opposite to the head movement (see video available on line <http://www.postgradmedj.com>). The eyes would then reach the target by performing saccadic and slow movements. Frequent eye blinking was also observed during the gaze shifts. He had no evidence

of infection at the time of evaluation. Figure 1 shows an ocular finding of diagnostic significance.

## QUESTIONS

- What is the ocular finding depicted in figure 1?
- What is the clinical diagnosis?
- What investigations would you consider?
- How would you follow up this patient?

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The video clip is available on line <http://www.postgradmedj.com/supplemental>

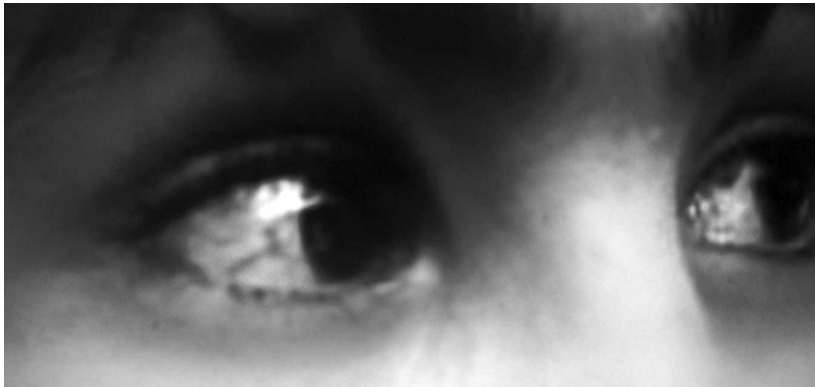


Figure 1 Clinical photograph of eyes.

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Consent has been obtained for figure 1 and the video.